

IMAGES

*The Redeemer College
Alumni Newsletter*

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Academic Outlook

An important dimension of the academic credibility of an institution is its reputation. In addition to a charter, memberships

Justin Cooper

in academic associations, quality faculty and good facilities, an institution is known by its students. The acid test of its academic programme is how the graduates perform when they continue their studies at other institutions or take up employment and other roles of service in society.

This shows the importance of alumni in building the reputation of their alma mater. Such a

reputation is built up slowly and in piecemeal fashion as each one goes to his or her next stop in life and uses the insights and knowledge gained in the course of studies. As graduates go to different communities, graduate schools, various companies and agencies and perform well, the inquiries come: "Where did you study?" And so the process of reputation building goes on.

It is perhaps startling to realize that as a former student of Redeemer College you have become one of its representatives, whether you want to be or not. As you carry out your responsibilities, the quality of what you do reflects back on you and also on the institution at which you received your education. We at Redeemer College, in turn, realize that we

have a responsibility to our students to give them a quality education which will prepare them for service.

Recently, I looked at a list of all of our alumni and was amazed at the many different places to which you have been led and the positions which you have assumed. We are very proud of what you have accomplished and feel it a privilege to have been able to play a part in preparing you for the calling you are now pursuing. Thank you for doing your part to help us build our academic reputation - as together we witness that Christian higher education, as it comes to expression at Redeemer College, is an excellent preparation for service.

Alumni Scholarship a Reality!

A scholarship for returning students entering their final year of study will be awarded by Alumni for the 1989/90 academic year. Applications for the \$300 award will be taken by the Vice-President (Academic) until the end of February. To be eligible, students must have a G.P.A. of 7.0 or better and

demonstrate leadership ability through activities which benefit the College. These activities can range anywhere from being Crown editor to doing volunteer work at the Hamilton Harbour rescue mission.

The Academic Standards Committee (a sub-committee of

Redeemer's College Council) will review the applications and choose a recipient for the annual award. A representative from the Alumni Board will be appointed to sit on this committee when the selection process is underway. We hope to publish a short article on the 1989-90 winner in our next issue of *Images*.

Arts Paper Created

A few years ago, a special issue of the Crown was published which featured literary works from the student body and faculty. Last year, work was published as a supplement to the *Crown* called the *Minstrel*. The College is pleased to announce that literary arts have grown another step further.

The *Minstrel*, an annual compilation of prose and poetry has been made an independent student publication. It has been given its own funding and constitution.

The 1988/89 issue is currently underway and will even be copyrighted. Student Senate President and *Minstrel* editor Lloyd Rang, will be accepting submissions of work from students and faculty until March 10, 1989.

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is the newsletter of the Redeemer College Alumni Association. It is designed to be a source of information for all former students and graduates of Redeemer College.

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Address all correspondence or address changes to the editor.

FACULTY NEWS

Edwin Plantinga co-authored a chapter entitled "Creating the Domain of Discourse: Ontology and Inventory" with Stephen Regoczei of Trent University in a recently published volume entitled *Knowledge Acquisition Tools for Expert Systems*, which is volume 2 in the Knowledge and Based Systems series, published by Academic Press.

Jacob Ellens addressed the Southern Conference on British Studies in Norfolk Virginia on November 10th on "*Church Disestablishment as Dissenting Pacifier, 1853-1863*"

Harry VanDyke has completed the final draft of his Doctoral thesis on Groen VanPrinsterer. His defense is scheduled for June 14.

Al Wolters gave an invited presentation on November 18th entitled "Apocalyptic and the Treasure of the Copper Scroll" at a symposium on "Qumran and Apocalyptic" at the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. He also attended sessions of the Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society in Wheaton, Ill.

Daniel Savage completed his M.Ed. from Bishop's University in Lennoxville, Quebec. The degree will be conferred in the

spring of this year.

Hugh Cook was invited to speak at Houghton College in New York on November 10, 11. He gave readings from his works and spoke to classes about the relationship between faith and fiction. His visit was funded by the Canada Council.

David Benner was invited to address the International Congress on Christian Counselling, in Atlanta, on November 10th. His address was entitled "Psychotherapy as a spiritual process".

Ted Plantinga addressed the membership meeting of the Association for Christian Education of St. Catharines (operating Calvin Memorial Christian School and Beacon Christian High), on November 1, 1988. The speech was entitled "Genesis 1-11: Implications for Education".

Dr. Plantinga also addressed the Hamilton Theological Society on the theme, "Where would we be without punishment?"

Wayne Norman conducted a workshop for the ACSD conference held at Redeemer College on Nov. 4th. The title of the workshop was, "Self Esteem and the Meaning of Denial in the Christian Life."

The Editor's Workbench

Greetings fellow Alumni;

Just before Christmas, you received a copy of our year-end appeal letter, sent to members and friends. You probably noticed the serious tone of the message and may have even wondered if Redeemer was in serious financial trouble. I'd like to take this page and explain things a little further and suggest ways in which we can improve the situation.

To become a credible academic institution and attract students, Redeemer College must offer a wide range of courses and programmes. In order to do this, it has 30 full-time and 10 part-time faculty. With the current enrolment of 342, our student/faculty ratio is very low, around 10 - 1 for the 88/89 academic year. This compares with the ideal ratio of 15-1 in similar institutions. In essence, one of our strongest selling points is also a major concern for the College. The *cost* for Redeemer College to educate a student is much higher than at universities with a better ratio.

The year end appeal spoke of students taking fewer courses (on average) than before, fewer students in campus housing, and of increased interest costs on our debt. This has resulted in a \$290,000 *excess* deficit for this fiscal year, in addition to the planned shortage. College administrators say that this trend will continue and worsen unless immediate action is taken. The

College will operate on the same budget for two years in an effort to bring expenses and revenue closer together. This past fall, budgets were trimmed and a percentage of pay raises were donated back to the College by both faculty and staff. In addition, response to the year end appeal was very good. Together, these measures will go far toward getting us back on track; however, more is necessary in order to ensure success.

The key to success is increasing the student enrollment. Since students pay tuition per course taken and take fewer courses (on average), we have to attract many more students to our campus in order to increase revenue. Ideally, we have to shoot for the 15 - 1 student/faculty ratio mentioned earlier, requiring an enrollment of approximately 500.

How do we help meet this goal? There is one thing we can do right now the College cannot do. We can talk about *our* experiences to others.

All of us have younger brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews who intend to go to university. Tell them about your experience - both the good and the bad - but do tell them. Right now, I think Alumni can play a key role in the success - or failure of our Alma Mater.

Admissions prospects always say how much they appreciate it when Board of Governors members call them to answer their questions and talk about the College. I believe it would be great for Alumni to make some contacts this way. We have experienced university in a way that most Board Members haven't; we have studied here.

Recently, I asked myself "Do I give an accurate report of my experience at Redeemer when I talk to others? *Do I talk about it?*" Speaking out for Redeemer is something we can do now that will benefit our school greatly. The best thing is that it's free! I challenge each one of you to be more active for Redeemer College in finding students. Even giving our Admissions Dept. names of good prospects will help. Together, we can make a difference for Redeemer College.

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Recently, I received a short note from Rene Weavers (Bos). Both she and Leanne Yates (Bulman) are wondering about the possibility of having a pioneer student reunion this summer. Both want to get reacquainted with all the people from '82/83.

Are people interested in coming to the College for a picnic and some games? It doesn't have to be long - just an afternoon of socializing and food if you want. If you are interested, please write or call with your ideas before the end of February. ~

The Personal Touch

Priscilla Geisterfer x83 recently moved to England and joined a Christian Community called "The New Era Centre". She reports that the Centre is for people to come and experience inner spiritual growth in preparation for Christian witness.

Leanne Yates (Bulman) x83 is expecting her first child this summer. Her address is R.R.#2 Beaverton, ON L0K 1A0

Glenn and Barb Bandstra x84 of Smithers B.C., wish to announce the birth of a healthy baby daughter, "Amy Anna". She was born October 10, 1988.

Linda Haverkamp (VanderKlippe) x84 and her husband Ralph would like to announce a new addition to their family - namely, "Jonathan Andrew" who was born on November 27, 1988.

Dawn and Paul Minnesma X84 wrote to say that they welcome visitors from Redeemer when they're in the Grand Rapids, MI area. They live at 1451 Louise S.E. and their phone number is (616) 243-5448. By the way, they have 2 kids, Carla 3 and Mark 1.

Thalia Triemstra (Boer) x85 married John Triemstra of Barrie on Saturday, October 8, 1988 in Covenant CRC in St. Catharines.

Rene Weavers (Bos) wrote to express interest in a Pioneer Student reunion this summer

and to tell us that she is expecting her first child. Renee's baby is due sometime in July.

Casper VanGurp 86 says that he is very much enjoying teaching gr. 3 and 4 in Georgetown Christian School. His address is 4 Bard Lane, Georgetown, ON L7G 2M7.

Irene Voordenhout 86 is presently teaching grade 3 at Lacombe Christian School. Her address is Box 3412 Lacombe, Alberta T0C 1S0.

Wilma Feddema x87 is currently enrolled at Durham College in Bowmanville in the Early Childhood Education program. She will graduate in April.

Sharon Top 87 is marrying

Bruce Gritter in Mt. Brydges on March 18th of this year. Sharon is currently employed at London Parental School teaching grades 5 and 6.

Willard and Ingrid VanderPloeg 87 x86 would like to announce that they expect their first child in July. Address: 602-780 Mohawk W. Hamilton, ON L9G 6P7.

Chris Schotsman 88 has recently accepted a position with Magna International, a manufacturer of original equipment auto parts, as a Sales Administrator. Chris is living and working in Markham, ON.

Lorraine Vermeer 88 is currently employed as an assistant Lab Technician at Allelix Ltd. in Mississauga.

News of Interest

Name: _____

Class year: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

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